has been calculated based on difference in the formulation price;

(b) whether it is also a fact that production and procurement of various Tetracylines did not tally with consumption in the said formulations on a year to year basis;

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to rectify the error in calculating the amount; and

(d) what are the details of production procurement and consumption of various Tetracyclines in the formulations on a year to year basis?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The amount due from the company has been assessed by the special team with reference to the data submitted by the company and verified by the team.

Extended Term of Kelkar Committee

1415. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) when was the Kelkar Committee appointed and when it submitted its report to Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that the term of the committee was extended;

(c) what was the terms of reference of extended period;

(d) whether the committee has since submitted its report, if so, what are its recommendations;

(e) what are the details of representations received from Members of Parliament and considered by the committee;

(f) what are the recommendations on each and whether they have been informed; and

(g) by when the final decision on the Report would be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The Kelkar Committee was appointed in March, 1987 and it submitted its report in August, 1987.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Committee was required to perform the function of reviewing any representations received by the Government regarding any discrepencies, anamolies etc., in the list of drugs of the new DPCO and give its recommendations.

(d) to (g) All representations received on this subject were forwarded to the Committee and it has recently submitted its supplementary report. The report is under examination.

Work to Rule Strike by Telecommunication Technicians

1416. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
DR. NARREEDY THULASI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work to rule strike started by the telecommunication technicians on July 26 still continues;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps have been taken by Government to settle the issues; and

(c) what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir. The agitation is resorted to by the Bhartiya Telecom. Technicians Union only.

(b) and (c) A list of their demands is given in the Statement enclosed. (*See* below). Talks were held with the Union representatives as also conciliation proceedings held by Chief Labour Commissioner. The Union was advised to call off the unjustified agitation which is causing dislocation of services to the public.

Statement

List of Demands

(i) Revision of pay scales of Technicians to Rs. 1400—2300;

(ii) Revision of pay scales of technical supervisors to Rs. 1640—2900;

(iii) One time bound promotion by counting the entire service period as Technicians;

(iv) For giving effect to the revised pay scale from 1-1-1986;

(v) Existing Technicians/Technical supervisors may be upgraded without any qualifying test and fitment training;

(vi) The newly restructured cadre of Technicians to be designated as Junior Enginer instead of Telecom. Assistant and higher grade Junior Engineer instead of Senior Telecom. Assistant;

(vii) 50 per cent vacancies be reserved for promotion to the J.T.O. grade;

(viii) "Diploma in Engineering" should be prescribed as the minimum qualification for direct entry for the post of Telecom. Assistant; and

(ix) The pay of upgraded Technicians be fixed as per existing rules of the D.O.T.

Decontrol on the Price of Bulk Vitamins

1417. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3272 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that following the decontrol on the prices of bulk vitamins their prices have risen upto 70 per cent;

(b) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee did not recommend price decontrol on the bulk drug vitamins and this decontrol was done in the Ministry at the behest of drug companies contrary to the exclusion criterias given by the Kelkar Committee;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the sales turn over of each bulk drug vitamins runs into many crores.

(d) whether it is also a fact that steep increase in prices of bulk drug vitamins and increase in MAPE on the formulations have led to an increase of 60 per cent in the prices of Becolsules. Surbex-T, Bivinol, Phosphomin and others; and

(e) if so, what was the mark up allowed under DPCO, 1979 and what is the present mark up on these vitamins?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The extent of increase in the price of vitamin bulk drugs varies from case to case.

(b) The Kelkar Committee recommended that all vitamins when used in combinations would come under category II of price control and that if used singly would not be price controlled. Keeping these recommendations in view, bulk vitamins were kept out of price control. However, vitamin A and C are being brought under Price Control.

(c) Sales turn over of bulk drugs is not monitored.

(d) Prices of vitamin formulations have gone up with percentage of increase varying from case to case.